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Orange County Transportation Authority: Art Brown, Buena Park

Riverside County Transportation Commission: Robin Lowe, Hemet

San Bernardino Associated Governments: Paul Leon

Ventura County Transportation Commission: Keith Millhouse, Moorpark

10/24/07

*** CHANGE IN MEETING ROOM ***

REGIONAL TRANSIT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, November 28, 2007
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**SCAG Offices
818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor
San Bernardino A&B Conference Room
Los Angeles, California 90017
213. 236.1800**

Teleconferencing Available:

**Please RSVP with Mariana Pulido at Pulido@scag.ca.gov
24 hours in advance.**

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact André Darmanin at 213.236.1851 or Darmanin@scag.ca.gov.

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation in order to participate in this meeting. If you require such assistance, please contact SCAG at (213) 236-1868 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to enable SCAG to make reasonable arrangements. To request documents related to this document in an alternative format, please contact (213) 236-1868.

REGIONAL TRANSIT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

“Any item listed on the agenda (action or information) may be acted upon at the discretion of the Committee”.

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS** Stephen Fox, Chair

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Members of the public desiring to speak on an agenda item or items not on the agenda, but within the purview of the Committee, must fill out and present a speaker's card to the assistant prior to speaking. A speaker's card must be turned in before the meeting is called to order. Comments will be limited to three minutes. The chair may limit the total time for all comments to twenty (20) minutes.

3. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

3.1 Approval Items

3.1.1 Minutes of the September 26, 2007 Meeting Attachment

4. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- | | | |
|--|--|----------------|
| 4.1 Special Meeting to Discuss Regional Transportation Plan - Transit Matrix/Projects List | Robert Huddy, SCAG & André Darmanin, SCAG | 90 min. |
| 4.2 Regional Transit Summit Update | André Darmanin, SCAG | 10 min. |

5. **CHAIR'S REPORT**

6. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Regional Transit Technical Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, January 23, 2008 at the SCAG offices in downtown Los Angeles.

Regional Transit Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
of the
Southern California Association of Governments

September 26, 2007

Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL TRANSIT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC). AUDIOCASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Regional Transit Technical Advisory Committee held its meeting at SCAG's office in downtown Los Angeles. The meeting was called to order by Stephen Fox, Chair.

Members Present:

Stephen Fox, Chair	Metro
James Mathew	Caltrans
Keyvan Shahromz	LADOT
Noel Takahara	CPUC
Grace Eng	Culver City Bus
Lori Abrishami	Metro
Vick Kamhi	VCTC
Alex Moosari	Metro

Via Teleconference:

Greg Nord	OCTA
Michelle Merino	IVAG

SCAG Staff:

Bob Huddy
Naresh Amatya
André Darmanin

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Stephen Fox, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approval Item

3.1.1 Minutes of the March 10, 2007 Meeting

Motion was made (Fox) to approve this item. The motion was seconded (Darmanin) and unanimously approved.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 RTP Update Report and Schedule

Naresh Amatya, SCAG, provided members with a brief description of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and discussed the key components that are included in the RTP. Mr. Amatya also noted that the RTP requires updating every four years in order to address the changes related to escalating project costs, projects scopes/priorities, growth forecasts, funding, financing, mandates(SAFETEA-LU), and air quality plans.

Mr. Amatya discussed the challenges that SCAG faces for the 2008 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The region's challenges include an explosive population growth, traffic congestion, air quality attainment measures, increased air travel demand, increased transit demand, as well as a greater demand on the goods movement system.

Mr. Amatya outlined the financial aspects of the RTP. He stated that preliminary forecasts have been made of all funding sources through 2035 for projected revenue of \$238 billion. This forecast does not cover all of the costs for projects that have already been committed to. The analysis suggests that many of the regional transportation projects cannot be fully funded without significant financial contributions from the public sector. If a project is to be included in the RTP its financial solvency must also be disclosed. Mr. Amatya reported the following unfunded needs:

- Roadway Preservation and Operations (\$10 – \$20 billion)
- Goods Movement System (\$40 - \$50 billion)
- Tolloed Truck Lane System
- High-Speed Regional Transport System (\$11 - \$19 billion)

Mr. Amatya stated that a series of workshops would be held in order to discuss each of the RTP topics in greater detail. The next workshop is scheduled for October 3rd and will cover Goods Movement Strategies. A total of seven workshops are planned with a final wrap up work shop on October 25th to be held at OCTA offices in Orange, CA. Mr. Amatya encouraged TAC members to participate in the workshops and provide any suggestions.

4.2 Transit – Financial Picture

Bob Huddy, SCAG, reported there was a 20% region-wide increase in transit according to NTD Data between the years 2000 – 2006. Unfortunately, there was not a major fare increase during this time. Mr. Huddy stated that while there was some increased cost recovery in 2005, in general, the ratio of fare box recovery declined until Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Agency (MTA) recently changed their fares. He also stated that Metrolink has a policy on raising its fares based on cost of living, fuel costs, and other contingencies.

Mr. Huddy discussed the challenges affecting transit operators. He stated that MTA has made a strong case in their Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) against raising their rates every ten to twelve years. Furthermore, fares need to be raised on a regular basis in order to exercise better cost recovery and all of the operators in the RTP will be identifying this as a critical issue.

Mr. Huddy recommended TAC members to consider a business case approach for transit operations specifically fare box recovery policies. Even though the minimum TDA requirement is 20% it may not be feasible to sustain service and operating levels given these new demands. Another recommendation is to look at operating services and develop a more efficient business case approach where coverage exists per hour for 50 – 80 passengers instead of every 10 minutes and only services 8 – 10 passengers.

Mr. Huddy mentioned that the draft RTP is scheduled to be posted on the SCAG website on November 4th when the RC adopts the plan. He encouraged TAC members to review and provide their feedback.

4.3 Transit Policy Recommendations

André Darmanin, SCAG, reviewed the policies that are to be recommended in the transit chapter of the RTP. Mr. Darmanin reported the following policies:

- Transit capital investments, Mr. Darmanin stated that this would include coordinating transit capital projects with transit oriented development in order to be consistent with SCAG's 2% Growth Strategy. In addition, implement priority transit projects.
- Financial viability, having a business case for service development and maintenance of service. Looking at such options as matching cost recovery with long distance trips to determine cost versus bottom line.
- Reliability deals with on time performance. Mr. Darmanin stated that a goal of 95% for the region is attainable based on previous performance standards. Frequency of services may include 10 minute services during peak times. Hours of operation should also be analyzed when increasing services, implementing or introducing new services to deal with new passengers. System design standards to maintain and/or improve safe and accessible stops and integrate design into bus stops that are transit friendly.
- Safety, security and emergency preparedness. This policy deals with customer safety and security at stops, stations and on vehicles. Transit system safety in traffic, at grade crossings and along rights-of-way. Develop emergency preparedness plans consistent with Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Office of Homeland Security (OHS).

Mr. Huddy added that there are few projects that may need to be removed due to financial constraints. The 2004 RTP included Phase 2 of the Expo to Santa Monica and includes the Red Line to La Cienega and the Gold Line to Montclair as well as the Rapid Bus projects and Metrolink expansions.

Vic Kamhi, VCTC, questioned the recommended ten minute headways and stated that in VCTC's urban areas operation is at 60 minute headways. More urban areas like the San Fernando Valley are operating with 20 minute headways. If this was to change it would also require additional buses. Doubling the fares would not produce enough revenue to reduce headways by 5 minutes. Mr. Darmanin stated that there is not a one-size fits all scenario and may not be the best approach for all CTCs.

4.4 Transit Summit – Progress Report

André Darmanin, SCAG, announced that the Transit Summit is scheduled for March 20, 2008 at the Wilshire Grand Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Mr. Darmanin stated that the agenda is in process and is working with the CTCs to discuss their needs and expectations. An agenda is planned for release in early 2008.

Grace Eng, Culver City Bus, recommended that a discussion topic on “how the public views public transportation” be included in the Transit Summit agenda. Vic Kamhi, VCTC, also recommended a discussion as to whether operators should focus resources on services that attract the discretionary rider to the degree that the non-discretionary rider suffers.

5.0 OPEN DISCUSSION

Bob Huddy, SCAG, stated that the draft 2008 RTP will be available for committee review at the next RTTAC.

6.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

7.0 NEXT MEETING

Stephen Fox, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m. The next meeting of the Regional Transit Technical Advisory Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, November 28, 2007.